

“Shattered Dreams of Revolution: From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire”

Summarizing the main findings of his recently published book, Bedross Der Matossian will explore comparative perspectives on how the Young Turk Revolution of 1908 and its constitutionalist ideological underpinnings raised the expectations and hopes of ethnic groups within the Ottoman Empire. The lecture will analyze the ways in which the Ottoman Empire’s Armenian, Arab, and Jewish communities internalized the Revolution amid the post-revolutionary turmoil by negotiating their space and identity within the rapidly changing political landscape of the period. By creating their own micro-revolutions, ancien régime(s), and new era, these groups heralded the Revolution and constitutionalism as the ultimate panacea for the existing maladies inflicting not only their communities but also the Ottoman Empire in general.

BIO: Bedross Der Matossian is an Assistant Professor of Modern Middle East History in the Department of History at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Born and raised in Jerusalem, he is a graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he began his graduate studies in the Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies. He completed his Ph.D. in Middle East History in the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University in 2008. From 2008 to 2010, he was a Lecturer of Middle East History in the Faculty of History at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. For the Spring quarter 2014 he was appointed as the Dumanian Visiting Professor in the University of Chicago. His areas of interest include ethnic politics in the Middle East, inter-ethnic violence in the Ottoman Empire, the history of the Armenian Genocide and modern Armenian history. In addition to contributing to numerous edited volumes, his articles have also appeared in the *Journal of Palestinian Studies*, *Jerusalem Quarterly*, *Armenian Review*, *Majallat al-Dirasat Al-Filastiniyya*, *European Journal of Turkish Studies*, *Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal*, *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*, *Turcica*, and *Ararat Quarterly*. He is the author of *Shattered Dreams of Revolution: From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire* (Stanford University Press, 2014).